

Request from Edmund G. Brown Jr.
President of the Regents of the University of California

I request that the following be placed on the January 2015 agenda for Regental action:

1. A select committee is hereby established to develop proposals to reduce the university's cost structure, while increasing access and quality.
2. The membership of the select committee shall be determined by the President of the Regents and the President of the University.
3. The Office of the President and the Department of Finance are designated to jointly staff the select committee.
4. The committee shall consult with distinguished experts, both within and outside the university.
5. The select committee shall consider the following five initiatives and others that may be recommended:
 - Identify pathways for undergraduate students to complete degrees in no more than three years, as recommended by the UC Commission on the Future.
 - Implement consistent lower-division major requirements across all campuses, as recommended by the Commission on the Future, as well as policies that (1) guarantee admission with junior status to any California community college student who earns an associate degree for transfer with an agreed-upon grade point average and (2) specify that a student admitted with an associate degree for transfer generally is not required to take any more than 60 additional semester units or 90 additional quarter units, consistent with SB 1440 (2010).
 - Offer a wide range of online courses enrolling large numbers of students far beyond the capacity of any seat-based classroom.
 - Expand policies that grant unit credit to students who demonstrate academic competence through work experience, military training, or other appropriate learning pathways.
 - Delineate, in reasonable detail, cross-campus collaborations and campus-specific specialization that, over time, would provide differentiation among the campuses. In addition, a range of disciplinary consolidations should be carefully considered. These goals were suggested by the report of the Commission on the Future.
6. The President of the University shall complete and present, no later than January 2015, to the select committee the report required by AB 94 (2013) regarding university spending on undergraduate instruction, graduate instruction and research.
7. The select committee shall report back to the Regents with a preliminary progress report no later than March 2015, with subsequent reports as necessary.